MINUTES

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF THE

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Alabama Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH,

Mt. Willing, Lowndes County, Alabama,

October 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1860,

AND OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY,

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT THE

SAME TIME AND PLACE.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
MONTGOMERY MAIL STEAM PRESS BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.
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HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH, LOWNDES CO., }
Friday, October 12th, 1860. }

The Delegates from the Churches composing the *Alabama Baptist Association* convened with the Hopewell Church according to appointment.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder P. H. LUNDY, from Matthew 11 : 6. "And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me."

After a recess of about an hour, the Delegates re-assembled in the Meeting House ; and the business of the Association was opened by singing and prayer, by Elder David Lee.

Called for Letters from the variors Churches ; which were read, and the names of the representatives registered, as follows :

FIRST DISTRICT.

Providence—C. M. Cochran, W. A. Cochran, B. F. Ellis.

Shiloh—C. H. Cleveland. Wm. Scott, Wm. Johnson.*

Mt. Lebanon, Dallas Co.—Elder Robert Carson, B. H. Crumpton, S. R. Smyly.*

Town Creek.—Elder David Peebles, W. G. Quarles, W. W. Hardy.

Sister Springs.—Jarrett Carter, G. W. Young, Jere. Johnson.

Bethany—Elder P. H. Lundy, Jno R. Williams, H. W. Caffey.

Centre Ridge.—Elder D. M. Rives, D. R. Lide, J. W. Dennis.*

SECOND DISTRICT.

Benton.—S. W. C. Weston, J. R. Hill, John Gresham.

Mt. Gilead.—W. B. Haralson, Thomas Barlow, John A. Edwards.

Ash Creek.—Elder C. F. Sturgis, Horace Rast, David Gordon.

Hopewell.—Elder David Lee, N. L. Brooks, John G. Brown.

New Bethel.—J. M. Bruner, J. E. Casey, E. Underwood.

Lowdesboro.—P. N. Cilley, G. L. Hadley.

Hayneville.—J. P. Streety, D. W. Johnson, M. C. Williams.

Smyrna.—T. Cook, T. Blake.*

Bethel.—Wm. Price, J. Day, S. Jordan.

Good Hope.—A. Hinson,* J. Peagler, A. Peagler.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Unity.—L. B. Tatum, D. Holt,* E. Presby.

Montgomery.—Elder I. T. Tichenor,* H. W. Watson, G. L. Hogan.

Rehoboth.—W. P. Dawson, Jas. H. Ware.

Elim, Montgomery Co.—M. McLemore,* B. F. Caffey,* R. H. Molton.

Salem.—Wm. Jones, A. J. Brassel.

Antioch.—J. H. Cogburn, W. B. Ray, R. S. Jones.

Ramah.—Elder G. G. McLendan,* J. H. Cogburn,* A. Boyd, J. D. McLendan.

†Greenwood.—H. Orum, C. T. Hardman,* C. McLaurine.*

Pine Level.—H. C. Hooten, N. D. Wright, C. Stevens.

Bethesda.—Elder J. S. Holmes, O. R. Bell, W. B. Myrick.

Mt. Lebanon, Montgomery county.—J. Jones,* G. B. Cantey,* G. Long.

‡Liberty.—

Midway.—J. Crow, J. R. O'Neill, J. H. Lee.*

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Greeneville.—Elder J. E. Bell, J. G. Thames, J. Gamble.

Sardis.—P. H. Drake, J. H. Harrison, T. H. Mills.

Mt. Olive.—*E. Johnson, Elder H. E. Parker,* W. D. Turner.*

Hickory Grove.—Elder J. A. Fonville, F. L. Ellis, F. Armstrong.

Philadelphia.—Elder D. P. J. Murphy, J. H. Nichols,* T. W. Thrower.*

New Ebenezer.—J. M. Douglass,* Elder J. C. McDaniel.

Damascus.—Elder Matthew Bishop, S. F. Andress, W. E. Shealey.

The Association then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. Elder David Lee was re-elected Moderator, W. B. Haralson, Treasurer, and H. W. Caffey chosen Clerk.

☞ Absentees marked thus *. Dismissed †. Not represented ‡.

An invitation was then extended by the Moderator to Ministers present, not members of the Association to seats, in the body.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees:

On Religious Exercises.—C. H. Cleveland, J. H. Cogburn, J. G. Thames, with the Deacons of Hopewell Church.

On Missions.—Elder J. T. Tichenor, B. H. Crumpton, W. A. Cochran, F. L. Ellis, and G. L. Hadley.

On Sunday Schools.—B. H. Crumpton, Elder D. Peebles, Elder M. Bishop, Jno. G. Brown, and James Armstrong.

On Documents.—C. F. Sturgis, J. H. Robertson, W. G. Quarles, J. Orum, and Elder Robert Carson.

On the State of Religion in the Churches.—Elder D. P. J. Murphy, W. A. Cochran, E. Underwood, L. B. Tatum, and Saml. Jordan.

On Finance.—F. Armstrong, J. P. Streety, and Jno. C. Hill.

Auditing Committee.—Jno. R. Williams, Robt. Molton, N. L. Brooks.

On motion, a Committee composed of Elder C. F. Sturgis, Elder P. H. Lundy, Elder D. P. J. Murphy, Elder I. T. Tichenor, and Robert Molton, were appointed by the Moderator, to report on the basis of representation.

On motion it was determined to grant half an hour each, to Elder A. Broaddus of Ky., agent of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, located at Greeneville, S. C., and Elder H. Talbird, President of Howard College, to represent the interests of their respective Institutions.

Committee on Preaching, report Elder Wm. C. Buck to occupy the stand to morrow morning at 11 o'clook, and Elder W. B. Jones to follow; Elder R. Holman to preach at 2 o'clock, P.M., and Elder T. M. Bailey to follow.

The Association then adjourned to meet to morrow morning 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder W. C. Buck.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Association met according to appointment, and opened with singing, and prayer by Elder R. Holman.

The Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and adopted. The Rules of Decorum were read by the Clerk, and on motion, the Moderator appointed a Committee to revise and correct them, consisting of Elder Jno. E. Bell, Elder P. H. Lundy, and W. B. Haralson. An amendment was moved and carried that the Moderator act as Chairman of the Committee; and at his request Elder I. T. Tichenor was added.

Roll of delegates called, and absentees marked.

Called for correspondence from Sister Associations.

Pine Barren.—No answer.

Unity.—Minutes and Messengers O. W. Sherrer, E. Sherrer, and N. Bozeman.

Tuskegee.—Minutes, and Elder W. B. Jones, and B. A. Blakey, delegates.

Bethlehem.—Letter and Messengers, Elder P. S. Milner, and James Loveless.

Salem.—Messengers, Jno. P. Nall, and J. R. Siler.

Central.—Package minutes.

Zion.—No answer.

Cahaba.—Messengers, Elder W. C. Buck, Elder R. Holman, Elder S. A. Creath, Elder H. Talbird, Elder T. M. Bailey, and Morgan S. Cleveland.

Baptist State Convention—Elder H. Talbird.

By resolution, the business of the Association was suspended half an hour for devotional exercises; and by request Elder R. Holman made special supplication in behalf of our Country. Business resumed.

The attention of the Association was called to the fact, that Elder A. M. Poindexter, Cor. Sec. of the Board of Foreign Missions, of Southern Baptist Convention, Elder R. Holman, Cor. Sec. of Domestic Mission Board, Elder H. Talbird, President of Howard College, Elder S. A. Creath, agent of Foreign Mission Board, Elder A. Broaddus, agent of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, D. R. Lide, Treasurer of Howard College, and Elder W. C. Buck, one of the Vice Presidents of Southern Baptist Convention, were present and that they be invited to seats in the body.

RETURNED CORRESPONDENCE:

Cahaba Association—To meet with Brush Creek Church, Perry county, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, B. H. Crumpton, C. H. Cleveland, W. B. Haralson, D. R. Lide.

Pine Barren—To meet on Saturday before the third Sabbath in September, Elder P. H. Lundy, C. H. Cleveland, Elder C. F. Sturgis, J. G. Thames, Elder D. Peebles, Elder D. Lee, and D. R. Lide.

Unity—To meet with Ebenezer Church, Bibb county, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October, S. W. C. Weston, Jere. Johnson, D. R. Lide.

Tuskegee—To meet with Providence Church, Russell county, on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, D. Gordan, Elder D. P. J. Murphy, Elder I. T. Tichenor, S. W. C. Weston.

Bethlehem—To meet with Brooklyn Church, Conecuh county, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, Elder Jno. E. Bell, Elder P. H. Lundy, Elder D. Lee, J. G. Thames, Elder M. Bishop, J. Gamble, Elder D. Peebles, and D. R. Lide.

Salem—To meet with Siloam Church, Pike county, on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, Elder D. P. J. Murphy, J. Crow, N. D. Wright, H. C. Hooten, Elder J. A. Fonville, Elder G. G. McLendan, J. Orum, C. Stevens, J. R. O'Neill, D. R. Lide.

Central—To meet on Tuesday after the fourth Sabbath in September, S. W. C. Weston, D. R. Lide.

Zion—To meet with———Church, Santa Rosa county, Fla., on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in November, Elder J. E. Bell, D. R. Lide.

Reopened correspondence with Bethel, Association.—To meet on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, B. F. Ellis, W. A. Cochran, D. R. Lide.

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint Delegates to the State Convention, and report at his leisure during the session.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint Delegates to the Southern Biennial Baptist Convention; and was given time to make them.

Elder David M. Rives, was appointed to write the general corresponding letter.

Elder Jno. E. Bell, to write the corresponding letter to Unity Association.

Elder P. H. Lundy, to write corresponding letter to State Convention.

Elder J. S. Holmes, to write letter of correspondence to Cahaba Association.

Elder M. Bishop, to write letter of correspondence to Zion Association.

In accordance with a resolve of yesterday, the business of the Association was suspended one hour, to hear Elder A. Broaddus, agent for the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Elder H. Talbird, President of Howard College, in behalf of their respective Institutions.

Delegates subscribed in pledges to the former about $300.

Delegates subscribed in	Cash.
S. A. Creath	1,00
J. Armstrong	2,50
G. L. Hogan	50
G. W. Young	5,00
J. Carter	1,00
F. L. Ellis	5,00
W. A. Cochran	5,00
A. Edwards	5,00
	$25,00

	Pledges.
Greenville Church	10,00
Bethel "	5,00
Mt. Lebanon Ch. Dallas co.	20,00
Bethany Church	25,00
Hopewell "	10,00
Sardis "	10,00
Pine Level "	20,00
Pledges	$100,00
Cash	25,00

For Beneficiaries of Howard College $125,00

To be sent up to Alabama Baptist State Convention.

Business resumed. Report on Missions was read, (see Appendix A.) On motion, *resolved* to suspend business at three o'clock this afternoon, for the meeting of the Associational Bible Board.

On motion, *resolved* that the hour of three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, be allowed the Bible Board for its session, as a permanent arrangement. Adjourned one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met and resumed business. On motion, the Committee on Preaching were authorized to excuse Elder I. T. Tichenor, and Elder David Peebles alternate, from preaching the Missionary Sermon on to morrow, and appoint a substitute.

On motion, *resolved* that so much of the Report on Missions as refers to Foreign Missions, be now taken up for

consideration, and that part relating to Domestic Missions, be postponed until Monday morning, nine o'clock, so as to allow Elder R. Holman an apportunity of addressing the Association in behalf of its interests.

A motion was then made, that this body adopt J. Q. H. Rohrer, as its Missionary to Japan, and make an effort to support him ; and that eleven o'clock, Monday morning, be set apart for its consideration.

Report of Missionary Board of Alabama Baptist Association was read, adopted, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes. (Appendix B.) Same Board re-appointed—viz : Elder David Lee, Jesse Robertson, W. B. Haralson, Dan'l. Rast, Thos. Barlow, David Gordon, E. W. Hardy.

The next annual session of this body appointed to meet with Pine Level Church, Montgomery county.

On motion, a re-consideration of the matter relating to the adoption of Bro. J. Q. H. Rohrer, as the Missionary of this Association to Japan, was agreed upon, and that it be now taken up for discussion. It was decided to adopt him, and that this body, will raise $1000, for his support.

Committee on Preaching report, Elder H. Talbird to preach the Missionary Sermon at eleven o'clock to morrow, and Elder J. S. Holmes to the blacks ; Elder T. S. Bailey to the blacks in the afternoon. Business suspended one hour for the meeting of the Bible Board. Association then adjourned to meet Monday morning at nine o'clock. Prayer by Elder A. Broaddus.

SABBATH.

In accordance with the arrangement of the Committee on Religious Services, the stand was occupied at 11 o'clock by Elder H. Talbird, who preached an earnest and convincing sermon on Missions, from Isaiah, 11 : 9.—at the close of which a public collection was taken up amounting to $97,00

After a recess of about one hour the congregation

repaired again to the arbor, the stand being occupied by Elder C. F. Sturgis, who read an essay of great clearness and force, upon the subject of Church Government.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Delegates convened according to appointment, and opened by singing, and prayer by Elder G. G. McLendan.

Minutes of Saturday read, corrected and adoped.

In pursuance of arrangement, Elder R. Holman addressed the Association, in relation to the operations, and cause of the Domestic Mission Board.

Business suspended half an hour for devotional exercises, and Elder C. F. Sturgis requested to make special prayer for the cause of Home Missions.

Resumed business. Report on Missions adopted and ordered to be printed with the Minutes. (Appendix A.)

Report of Committee on Finance received and referred to the Auditing Committee for examination. (Appendix C.)

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to complete the list of Delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention, and that the Delegates may fill any vacancies by putting in the names of any member of this Association who may be present. Report of Committee on Sunday Schools read, adopted and ordered to be printed with the Minutes. (See Appendix D.)

It was ordered that the collection taken up yesterday, be equally divided between the General Domestic Mission Board, and Foreign Mission Board.

Committee on Religious exercises, report Elder David Lee to preach the introductory sermon, at the next annual meeting of this body; Elder D. P. J. Murphy alternate; Elder Matthew Bishop the Missionary Sermon; Elder C. F. Sturgis alternate; Elder P. H. Lundy Doctrinal Sermon on Baptism; Elder David Peebles alternate,

Report of Committee on Documents considered, amended and adopted, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes. (Appendix E.) Letter of Dismission granted to Greenwood Church, and Clerk instructed to prepare the letter.

On motion, *resolved* that Elder P. H. Lundy and H. W. Caffey, prepare suitable memorials of the death of Elder Isaac Lyon and Deacon Freeman Hardy, formerly loved members of this body, and that they be spread upon the Minutes. (Appendix F.)

On motion, it was *resolved*, that Friday before the first Sabbath in November, be recommended to all the Churches composing this body, to be observed as a day of fasting and prayer to Almighty God, in view of the present threatening condition of affairs, in our beloved Country.

Report of Committee on State of Religion in the Churches read—motion to lay on the Table—lost. It was then adopted, and ordered to be spread on the Minutes. (Appendix G.) Report of Special Committee on basis of representation, was read and laid on table.

Report of Committee on Revision of Rules of Decorum adopted, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes. (Appendix H.) Letters of correspondence to other bodies read and adopted. Letter to State Convention read and adopted. General corresponding letter read and adopted. (Appendix J.)

Subsequent to Bro. R. Holman's appeal, a contribution was made by the Delegates in cash, as follows, for the cause of Domestic Missions :

Elder D. Lee	5,00	Jno. Gresham	5,00
Thos. Barlow	5,00	Elder M. Bishop	2,50
Elder C. F. Sturgis	5,00	J. W. Sims	5,00
J. H. Ware	5,00	S. F. Andress	1,00
D. Gordan	5,00	J. S. Holmes	2,00
J. G. Thames	5,00	E. F. Underwood	1,00
Horace Rast	5,00	A. J. Brassell	1,00
W. P. Dawson	5,00	F. L. Ellis	5,00
I. T. Tichenor	5,00	H. L. Hinson	5,00
F. Armstrong	5,00	D. Holt	1,00
R. H. Molton	5,00	J. E. Bell	1,00
T. H. Mills	3,00	Long	1,00
J. C. Hill	5,00		$30,50
B. L. Tatum	5,00		73,00
H. C. Hooten	5,00		$103,50
	$73,00		

The following pledges were also made for the support of an Indian Missionary.

Elder David Lee	20,00
W. P. Dawson	20,00
Jas. H. Ware	20,00
Robt. H. Molton	20,00
Thos. H. Watts	20,00
	$100,00

Report of Treasurer read, adopted, and referred to Auditing Committee. On motion permission was granted to Bro. Jno. Gamble, to make a statement concerning the Greenville Baptist Female College.

On motion, *resolved*, Whereas the means for the support of the beneficiaries of the Convention in Howard College, have failed ; and whereas the duty of providing the means devolves again on the Churches, therefore *resolved*, that we call upon the Churches of this Association, and invite them to send up by their Delegates, such means for that object, as they may find it possible to raise.

Voted, That the clerk receive $30 for his services, and expenses ; that he superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and that he have as many copies printed, as the funds sent up for that purpose will admit of, after deducting the said $50 therefrom.

Voted, That the table be reprinted on back of cover of Minutes, with such alterations as are necessary.

Resolved, That the last week in July be devoted to Missionary work, and that the Moderator divide the Association into districts, and assign the Ministers their respective field of labor, with power to add other brethren, and that a collection be taken up for the support of Bro. J. Q. H. Rohrer.

Suspended for Bible Society to complete their business.

Association resumed business. Moderator appointed the following Delegates to Southern Convention, C. H. Cleveland, W. B. Haralson, Elder I. T. Tichenor, Elder D. M. Rives, Elder C. F. Sturgis, Jno. R. Williams, B. H. Crump-

ton, Elder P. H. Lundy, Elder Jno. E. Bell, D. R. Lide, Elder J. A. Fonville, Elder G. G. McLendan, Elder D. Peebles, Elder Robt. Carson, Elder M. Bishop, Elder J. S. Holmes, Elder D. P. J. Murphy, Elder D. Lee, H. W. Caffey, Daniel Rast.

Delegates to Alabama State Convention; N. L. Brooks, Horace Rast, Robert Molton, Elder P. H. Lundy, Elder D. P. J. Murphy, Elder David Rives, H. W. Caffey, B. H. Crumpton, Elder J. E. Bell, J. R. Williams.

Voted, That the Minutes of the Bible Society be appended to the Minutes of this body.

The Auditing Committee reported, that on examination the accounts of the Financial Committee, and Treasurer were found to be correct. (Treasurer's Report, Appendix J.)

On motion, *resolved*, that all unappropriated funds be equally divided between the Foreign and Domestic Mission Boards. On motion, the Clerk is authorized to correct at his leisure the Minutes of to-day's proceedings.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association, be tendered to the brethren and friends of Hopewell Church and vicinity, for the kind and hospitable entertainment so freely extended to them, during the present session of this body.

The business of the Association having been harmoniously and happily completed, the services were concluded by singing, and prayer by Elder I. T. Tichenor.

The Association then adjourned to meet with the Pine Level Church, on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1861.

DAVID LEE, *Moderator*.

H. W. CAFFEY, *Clerk*.

APPENDIX.

[A.]

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

From the frequency of such reports as we are expected to make, it is almost impossible to advance anything entirely new; hence we can only expect to stir up the minds of the brethren by repeating again and again, that which has already been written. Every Christian should feel a lively interest in the cause of Missions, since the object of the organization is to glorify our Divine Master, and to elevate immortals to the position which nature's God would have them occupy; since the Church is the agent appointed by the Incarnate Redeemer for spreading his gospel, and for the obtainence of victory over his enemies.

That the Church is militant in its character none will pretend to deny; that she is the constituted agent of the Great Head for the accomplishment of his purposes, in the salvation of sinners is a fact that will not be controverted; that she has never yet made exertions for the conversion of the world comensurate with her ability, and the requirements of the Redeemer is equally certain. The field is the world and every land on which the light of Heaven shines, and over which the breath of mercy rolls, should be fertilized by the river of God. Wherever human beings pine in misery, revel in wickedness, or where darkness and superstition reigns, there should be the faithful minister

to point them to the Lamb of God, and unfold to them the light and glory of the Gospel. As to the duty of engaging in Missions, there can be but one opinion. We found our undertaking not on the secret, but on the revealed will of God; it is to make Christ the head even of the heathen. We justify it not by the fallible deductions of reason, but by the explicit commands of Christ, "Go preach the Gospel to every creature." The inducements for us to prosecute the great work with energy and christian fidelity are numerous. Already as much or more has been accomplished by the efforts of our Missionaries, than we could have expected, from the amount of money contributed and number of persons employed. Time, patience and untireing industry are necessary for the accomplishment of great good in such countries as China and Africa. Early prejudices are to be removed, false notions eradicated, before such persons as the inhabitants of those regions, are prepared to hear impartially the truths of the Gospel; hence we cannot expect an abundant harvest in a few years.

Until recently we have had only about sixty Missionaries and Assistants in China and Africa. In the main they have been faithful, and through their instrumentality a number are rejoicing in the hope of heaven, through the merits of a Crucified Redeemer. Our Foreign Mission Board, located at Richmond, Va., have apparently guarded the interests of the Mission with constant care. In the discharge of the trust committed to them, they have displayed wisdom, industry and great love for the cause of Christ.

Recently about twenty recruits have been added; a part of whom have already joined the small army in the field. A new interest has been commenced under the direction of the laborious Bowen, in Brazil, and Bro. Rohrer is on his way to Japan, to start a Mission there. Under these circumstances the Board calls loudly for

additional funds. Shall they ask in vain? The liberality of the brethren will answer. The brethren in Yoruba, and those in China, are surrounded by the horrors of war; while not perhaps in personal danger, these Brethren and Sisters, especially those in Yoruba, claim our sympathy and prayers; that God will protect them amidst the tumults of the people, and cause all these commotions to result in promoting the spread of the truth.

The Domestic Mission Board, located at Marion, has by its fidelity everywhere won the approbation and praise of the brethren. The most careless observer cannot fail to see, that much good has been accomplished through its instrumentality. In city and country, has its influence been felt.

The faithful devoted heralds of the cross, sustained by the exertions of our Domestic Mission Board, have successfully borne our master's banner in many localities, where no proper testimony had before been given for Jesus, and many are now able to praise God for dying love and redeeming grace, through the instrumentalities of this Board. To the Brethren in Marion, the interests of the Indian have been committed, and no Mission within our knowledge has been so successful. The Creeks, Choctaws and Cherokees especially seem ready to hear and receive the Gospel. Churches are being constituted, and multitudes of red men are swelling the company of the Redeemer. Through our Missionaries their condition social, and religious, has been much improved. About 150 Missionaries and Assistants have been employed by this Board. For want of money some have not been re-appointed, and without a speedy augmentation of the Treasury, quite a portion of this small company must be disbanded. Shall this be? Shall the Indian, the former occupants of this beautiful and fertile country, call upon us for the Bread of Life in vain? Justice, mercy and love answer no! Shall the foothold already obtained in our

towns and villages be given up? Our duty and our interests forbid it!

Every generous impulse of our nature demands that these interests should be sustained. It is almost unnecessary to speak of the good accomplished within the bounds of the Alabama Association. All are familiar with the history and success of this enterprise; but while much has been done, much more is yet required at our hands. The field within our boundary is yet sufficient for the labor of several active Missionaries. The Associational Board has been unable to place a suitable man in the field until within the last few months. We have every confidence in the ability and fidelity of our present Missionary, the Rev. T. M. Bailey, and we may reasonably expect much good through his instrumentality.

Brethren, on the subject of Missions we need not to be taught, but exhorted: not to be convinced but persuaded, for we are assured that all of us know our duty and have only to be prevailed on to do it.

What Brethren is the spirit of Missions, but the spirit of Christianity, operating in its divinest energies and closely treading in the steps of our Lord, and his Apostles? Be it then the peculiar concern of this Association, to fan and spread this hallowed flame.

When we shall have imbibed the full spirit of our Divine Master, then, and not till then will our talents and our wealth be properly used for the accomplishment of this great object.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. H. LUNDY, Chairman, .

[B.]

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS OF ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Your Board have held meetings quarterly during the year. Early in the year they offered an appointment to

Bro. James Webb, for one fourth of his time; requiring him to supply a destitute neighborhood near Millville, Butler county, but in consequence of secular engagements, he declined accepting the appointment. They also offered to employ Bro. Robertson, a student of Howard College for his whole time, from about the first of July last; but after mature deliberation he declined; thus they were without a Missionary until the first of August, when they engaged Elder T. M. Bailey for his entire time, at a salary of $75 per month.

Bro. Bailey reports, that he has travelled 520 miles, preached 58 sermons, delivered 33 exhortations, visited for religious instruction 72 families, delivered two Sunday School addresses, baptized three, and received two by letter. Bro. Bailey has performed much efficient labor, in conjunction with other brethren in protracted meetings, with the understanding that they are to render him like assistance at similar meetings, should he be re-appointed. We also appointed at the request of Elim Church, Montgomery county, Elder James S. Holmes, for one fourth of his time, at a salary of $150 to preach to the colored members of said Church; Elim Church to pay him that amount. Your Board have drawn on your Treasurer, W. B. Haralson for $180, the amount due T. M. Bailey for services rendered.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID LEE, President.

[D.]

THE COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

Respectfully Report:—Whatever may have been the opinions of Christians formerly, in reference to this matter, it now appears clear to all who have experience on this subject, that the Sabbath School system is second to none, as a means of promulgating the Gospel among the young, and is establishing a deep and heartfelt piety among the Churches. Its influence upon teachers, parents and pupils, is of the most salutary kind, and it indeed appears to be about the only agency that can generally be employed, to bring the Gospel to bear upon the minds of children. Of its beneficial influences upon all classes there is no room whatever to doubt; thousands can testify on that point, and should any one whatever be found who has the slightest doubts, let the system be but fairly tried, and its effects will soon be made to appear in the increased piety, and intelligence of that community.

Objections have been raised against almost every scheme of benevolence that has ever been projected; perhaps fewer have been raised to the Sabbath School System than to any other. All minds seem to be impressed with the idea that it is a very good institution if it can be carried out, and this it seems to be the great barrier that opposes our progress on this important subject. Multitudes are inactive on this subject, just as they are upon any other that requires pains taking, or labor of any kind, and that such persons cannot originate and conduct a Sabbath School, is no more to the point than that the slothful man, mentioned Prov. 24: 30 had no crop. Others there are who really believe that in their peculiar circumstances it cannot be done.

If however we attentively consider the sense in which men use the word cannot, we shall find that it is very seldom used to express an absolute impossibility or even an impossibility to them, but merely that with the motives

and considerations before their minds they do not feel impelled to such efforts as are necessary to success.

Your Committee would therefore recommend, that this body affectionately recommend each Church within its bounds, faithfully to make the effort to originate and sustain a Sunday School, and not to be satisfied to give over the efforts, but for such reasons as they conscientiously believe that the great Head of the Church will approve.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. F. STURGIS, Chairman.

[E.]

THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS REPORT,

That on examining the letters that have been placed in their hands, they find as follows: Elim Church applies for the re-appointment of Bro. J. S. Holmes to preach at Old Elim, and proposes to pay $150 towards that object; which your Committee recommend to the attention of the Missionary Board of the Association.

Greenwood Church applies for a letter of dismission, desiring to unite with an Association more convenient to themselves.

Good Hope informs us that she has not been able to obtain the services of a Pastor during the year; your Committee would call the attention of the Missionary Board of the Association to that fact.

Town Creek Church announces the death of Deacon Freeman Hardy, and Benton Church calls attention to the loss she, and this body has sustained in the removal, by death, of Rev. I. Lyon; your Committee recommend that a suitable Memorial of these beloved Brethren be spread upon the Minutes of this body. Bethany suggests the propriety of appointing a day of fasting and prayer, in

view of the present distracted condition of our country, to which your Committee would call the attention of this body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. F. STURGIS, Chairman.

[F.]

THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO PREPARE A MEMORIAL OF BRETHREN ISAAC LYON AND FREEMAN HARDY, REPORT—

That they are not in possession of such facts, as will enable them to give the particulars of the connection of these deceased Brethren with our Denomination, and your body. Since your last meeting, the ruthless hand of death has invaded your body, and removed Elder Isaac Lyon formerly Pastor of the Benton Church, and for several years Clerk of the Alabama Baptist Association, and Brother Freeman Hardy, a Deacon of Town Creek Church. It is meet that we should gather round their bier, and drop the sacred tear of sympathy; it is proper that we should give this testimonial of the affection we cherished for them while here; and of our grief for their removal from our midst. Both of them were earnest and zealous laborers in their Master's vineyard; their feelings were ever enlisted, and their hands ready to engage in every commendable work, projected to advance his cause, or glorify his name. Often has the writer of this brief and imperfect tribute, seen the tear of sympathy trickle down the cheek of the former, as with deepest solicitude he exhorted sinners of their danger, and besought them to flee from the wrath to come. And often has he listened to the terse and vigorous language of the latter, as he conversed of Christ, and him crucified, and of the obligations of Christians to him who descended to death, even the cruel death of the Cross, to work out their salvation; his eye would dilate with raptur-

ous enthusiasm, and his countenance glow with fervid love as he rehearsed what the Saviour had done for him. But no more will their voices be heard, exhorting their fellow men to embrace the Saviour as their only hope; no more will their christian sympathies be mingled with ours; no more will their voices of wisdom and fervid zeal be heard in our deliberate bodies. They have gone to the grave, "where there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom." But we are comforted with the elevating thought, that "they have fought a good fight, have finished their course, have kept the faith," and are now the happy recipients of that "Crown of Righteousness," promised by the "Lord the righteous judge," to them "that love his appearing." And that for such as they, was written that consoling sentence; "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

P. H. LUNDY,
H. W. CAFFEY. } Committee.

[G.]

STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

Providence complains of coldness, with a decrease of membership.

Shiloh is at peace. Has increased her membership, and has a Sabbath School.

Mt. Lebanon, Dallas county, has been revived. An increase of 18 in membership, and has a Sabbath School.

Centre Ridge.—In a prosperous condition, several additions by baptism, and has a Sabbath School.

Town Creek.—No report—decrease of membership. Has an encouraging Sabbath School.

Sister Springs.—Nothing of interest; is at peace; small decrease.

Bethany.—In a languishing condition. Membership decreased. Has a Sabbath School.

Benton.—Revived. Several accessions; has an interesting Sabbath School. Increase 16.

Mt. Gilead.—Prospering. An increase of 24.

Ash Creek.—A small increase.

Hopewell.—Report encouraging; increase 20; has a Sabbath School.

New Bethel.—Reports an interesting meeting; increase 9.

Lowndesboro.—Nothing encouraging.

Hayneville.—As she was at our last session.

Smyrna.—Revived; an increase of 9.

Bethel.—Revived; increase of 9; has a Sabbath School.

Good Hope.—Complains of coldness; a small increase.

Unity.—Nothing cheering; is at peace.

Montgomery.—A small decrease.

Rehoboth.—No report.

Elim, Montgomery county.—Membership increased 82.

Salem.—Nothing encouraging.

Ramah.—Membership increased 6.

Antioch.—Revived; a small decrease.

Greenwood.—A small increase in membership.

Midway.—Revived; Several accessions.

Mt. Lebanon, Montgomery county.—At peace; increase 7.

Liberty.—Not represented.

Bethesda.—At peace: decrease 4; has a Sabbath School.

Pine Level.—Nothing cheering; a small decrease; has an interesting Sabbath School.

Mt. Olive.—Revived; increase 14.

Greenville.—Prospering; increase 33.

Sardis.—Revived; increase 10; has a Sabbath School.

Hickory Grove.—At peace; a small decrease.

Philadelphia.—A small increase; has a Sabbath School.

New Ebenezer.—Increase 7.

Damascus.—Increase 12; has a Sabbath School.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. P. J. MURPHY, Chairman.

[H.]

RULES OF ORDER FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. At every annual meeting of this Association immediately after the Delegates names are enrolled, tellers shall be appointed by the Chair, and the Association shall proceed to choose from among their number, a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall hold their offices until new ones are chosen.

2. The Moderator shall take the chair every day at the hour to which the Association shall have adjourned on the preceding day; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the Minutes of the preceeding day to be read.

3. He shall preserve order and decorum; may speak to points of order in preference to other members; rising from his seat for that purpsse; and shall decide questions of order subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Association.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. Questions shall be distinctly put; those voting in the affirmative shall say aye; and those of a contrary opinion shall say no. If the Moderator doubts, or a division be called for, the Delegates shall devide; those in the affirmative of the question shall first rise from their seats, and afterwards those in the negative.

6. The Moderator shall appoint all Committees, unless otherwise specially directed by the Association.

7. In all cases of election the Moderator may vote; in other cases he shall not vote, unless the body be equally divided; in that event he shall give the casting vote. He may speak to any question, provided he call some other member to occupy the Chair while he is speaking.

8. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the Delegates; minute the proceedings of the body, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

9. The Treasurer shall receive; account for and pay out all monies belonging to this body, according to the instructions of the Association; and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

DECORUM IN DEBATE.

10. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat, and shall respectfully address the Moderator; and shall confine himself to the question under debate, and avoid personalities.

11. If any member in speaking or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may call him to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down, unless permitted to explain; and the Association shall if appealed to, decide on the case, but without debate. If there be no appeal the decision of the Chair shall be submitted to; if the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, he shall not be permitted to proceed in case any member object, without leave of the Association.

12. When two or more members happen to rise at once, the Moderator shall name the member who is first to speak.

13. No member shall speak more than once to the same question, without leave of the Association, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending; in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

14. Every member who shall be in the house, when a question is put shall give his vote, unless the Association for special reason, excuse him.

15. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Chair, or being in writing, it shall be handed to the Moderator, and read aloud before debated.

16. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Chair or any member desire it.

17. After a motion is stated by the Chair, or read aloud

by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the body, but may be withdrawn by leave of the Association at any time before a decision or amendment.

18. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be entertained, but to adjourn, to lie on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a day certain, to commit or amend, to postpone indefinitely; which several motions shall have precedence, in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely, being decided, shall again be allowed during the session.

19. A motion to adjourn shall be always in order, except the Association be engaged in voting.

20. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except a member be speaking, or the body engaged in voting.

21. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

22. The previous question shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put." It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; its effects shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the Association to a direct vote upon amendments reported by Committee if any, upon pending amendments, and then upon the main question.

23. No motion or proposition, on a subject different from that under consideration, shall be admitted under color of amendment.

24. When a motion has been once made and carried, in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move a re-consideration thereof, on the same or succeeding business day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

25. No member shall absent himself from the House without leave of the Moderator, nor leave the meeting without leave of the Association.

[I.]

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN SESSION AT HOPEWELL CHURCH, MT. WILLING, LOWNDES COUNTY—TO HER SISTER ASSOCIATIONS.

Dear Brethren: We have received your messengers, and thus continue the correspondence with pleasure. While a few of our Churches have remained stationary, or have even retrograded, the great majority have increased in numbers.

The number of additions to the Churches, has been greater than last year, but owing to the great number of removals, our increase in numbers has not been so great as last year.

Notwithstanding the disastrous year, our contributions nearly equal those of last year.

In accordance with resolutions adopted last meeting, several new Sabbath Schools have been founded, and some already established rendered more efficient. Missions to the colored population within our bounds have been prosecuted as heretofore.

The names of our messengers to you appear in the minutes.

Our next meeting will be with the Pine Level Church, Montgomery county; you are cordially invited to meet us there by your messengers; and may grace, mercy and peace be with you all, Amen.

[J.]

TREASURER'S REPORT.-FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION FUND.

Amount balance in hand from last year's account	859 79
" sent up by the Churches	481 25
	$1341 04

COLORED MISSION FUND.

Amount balance in hand from last year's account	168 50
" sent up by the Churches	8 50
	$177 00

STATE CONVENTION FUND.

Amount received for Foreign Missions	449 41
" " " Indian "	224 50
" " " General Domestic Missions	232 16
" " " Benefic. Howard College	87 80
" " " Bible Distribution	161 85
" " " Southern Publication Society	5 00
" " " African Mission	3 00
" " " Nashville Bible Society	17 66
	$1181 38

PLEDGES.

Amount pledged for Indian Missions	100 00
" " " Benefic. Howard College	100 00
" " " Missionary to Butler County	75 00
" " " Associational Missions	10 00
" " " Foreign "	80 00
	$365 00

ASSOCIATIONAL BIBLE SOCIETY FUND.

Amount received at this Session	$75 35
Amount received for Minutes	$93 50

W. B. HARALSON,
Treasurer Ala. Baptist Association.

October, 1860.

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

The meeting was called to order by Elder C. F. Sturgis the President. Prayer by Elder David Lee.

The President appointed a Committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

While a hymn was being sung the following persons were constituted annual members by the payment of one dollar each :

Elder S. A. Creath, M. E. Lee, Elder David Lee, Elder J. S. Holmes, Elder Robt. Carson, Jarret Carter, Jno. A. Harrison, W. E. Shealey, B. H. Crumpton, D. M. Reeves, J. L. Miles, A. Peagler, C. W. Boyd, S. F. Andress, B. F. Ellis, A. J. Brassel, Jno. R. Williams, Jno. F. Lloyd, Jas. H. Ware, D. Gordon, Elder I. T. Tichenor, J. Johnson, T. H. Mills, S. W. C. Weston, D. W. Johnson, Calvin Stevens, C. H. Cleveland, D. Holt, T. A. Hardy, Francis Gordon, Jr., R. L. Myrick, J. P. Streety, F. Armstrong, Jno. C. Hill, W. A. Cochran, Jno. Gresham, H. D. Rast, M. J. Plumb, M. Murphree, Mrs. P. Moss, Mrs. Mary Crumpton, Mrs. A. H. Dunklin, Susan E. Williams, Mary A. Haygood, Amelia E. McCants, F. A. Turner, E. P. Holcombe, L. B. Tatum, Elder H. Talbird, P. H. Drake, Elder A. Broaddus, J. A. Edwards, H. C. Hooten, J. G. Thames, L. M. Mealing, S. Davenport, Miss H. Peebles, T. W. Hartley, W. B. Haralson, R. H. Molton, S. Jordan, M. A. Whitman, J. Armstrong, M. E. Lee, Mrs. A. E. Knight.

The Committee appointed to nominate officers report as follows ; Elder C. F. Sturgis, President, W. B. Haralson, Treasurer, H. W. Caffey, Secretary.

On motion, *resolved* that the President be empowered to appoint Delegates to the Alabama Bible and Colporteur Society, and that these Delegates be instructed to inquire what has been done in reference to the resolutions passed at its last session.

On motion, *resolved* that the funds raised this session, and

TOTAL.	
HOME COLORED MISSION.	
JAPAN MISSION J. Q. H. ROHRER.	
BENEFICIARIES OF H'RD COLLEGE.	
SOUTHERN BAP. PUB. SOCIETY.	
BIBLE.	
FOR. MISS. AND BAP. CONV'TION.	
INDIAN MISSION.	
GEN'L DOM. MISSION S. B. C.	
DOM. MISSION ALABAMA ASSOCIATION.	
NAMES OF CONTRIBUTORS.	